

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks.

Claims 41-80 were pending in this application. Claims 51 and withdrawn claims 64-77 have been cancelled, and claims 41 and 52-63 have been amended hereby. Claim 41 now recites the features of claim 51 and claims 52-63 now all depend from claim 41. Claims 41-50, 52-63 and 78-80 will be pending herein upon entry of this Amendment. For the reasons stated below, Applicant respectfully submits that all claims pending in this application are in condition for allowance.

In the Office Action, many of the claims were rejected over the prior art, but claims 51-61 and 63 were indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form. To expedite the prosecution of this case, Applicant has amended independent claim 41 with the features of allowable (and now cancelled) claim 51. Accordingly, claim 41, and all claims dependent thereon, should be in immediate condition for allowance.

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Should the Examiner have any questions or determine that any further action is desirable to place this application in even better condition for issue, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone Applicant's undersigned representative at the number listed below.


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Date: March 8, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

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